

SERIAL No. 10/033,788

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Remarks

Claims 4 - 8, 10 - 12, and 14 - 22 remain in the application with claims 20 - 22 being the only independent claims.

With respect to the Final rejection of claims 4 - 8, 10 - 12, and 14 - 22 under 35 USC 102 over the Netpulse publication, this rejection is respectfully traversed. The publication date on the Netpulse publication is "2002" [see the end of the second page]. This merely establishes December 31, 2002 as the effective date of the Netpulse publication. This date is **after** the effective date of the present application for two reasons. The present Utility application was filed on January 3, 2002 which was almost 12 months prior to the effective date of the Netpulse publication of December 31, 2002.

In addition, the present application claimed the benefit of the U.S. Provisional application 60/292,954, filed on June 6, 2001 [see the Specification, page 1, lines 2 and 3, and the Declaration. Therefore, the Netpulse publication is not a proper prior art reference since the effective date is after the effective filing date of the present application. Therefore, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

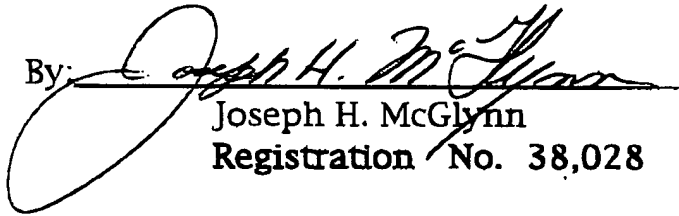
From the above mentioned remarks and amendments, the Examiner's rejections and objections are thought to be overcome. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore an early notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,
Patent & Trademark Services, Inc.

By:



Joseph H. McGlynn
Registration No. 38,028

6111 Saddle Horn Dr.
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 830-3534
FAX-(703) 830-5206